

1. A mounting bracket capable of retaining a fastener, the bracket comprising:
a front face;

a rear face positioned behind the front face;

a first opening located on the front face and a second opening located on the rear face,

5 the first opening and the second opening constructed such that a fastener may pass through the bracket via the first opening and the second opening; and

a retaining member constructed such that when the fastener passes through the bracket, the fastener engages the retaining member and causes the bracket to retain the fastener.

10 2. The bracket as in claim 1 wherein the retaining member comprises retaining tabs, constructed such that when the fastener passes through the bracket, the fastener contacts the retaining tabs and causes the mounting bracket to retain the fastener.

15 3. The bracket as in claim 2 wherein the retaining member further comprises centering tabs.

4. The bracket as in claim 3 wherein the centering tabs are angled.

20 5. The bracket as in claim 4 wherein the centering tabs form an angle with respect to the rear face that is from about 45° to about 70°.

6. The bracket as in claim 2 wherein the retaining tabs are adjacent to the second opening.

7. The bracket as in claim 2 wherein the retaining tabs are angled.

8. The bracket as in claim 7 wherein the retaining tabs form an angle with respect to the rear face that is from about 3° to about 35°.

9. The bracket as in claim 1 wherein the bracket is constructed to mount an airbag to a vehicle.

10. The bracket as in claim 1 wherein the front face and the rear face are constructed to enclose a portion of an airbag.

11. The bracket as in claim 1 wherein the bracket is constructed to mount a tether to a vehicle.

12. The bracket as in claim 1 wherein the front face and the rear face are constructed to enclose a portion of a tether.

13. The bracket as in claim 1 further comprising an anti-rotation tab.

14. The bracket as in claim 13 wherein the anti-rotation tab is capable of being inserted into an aperture in a body of a vehicle.

5 15. The bracket as in claim 13 wherein the anti-rotation tab is attached to the rear face.

10 16. The bracket as in claim 13 wherein the anti-rotation tab is constructed such that if the bracket is mounted on a vehicle, the anti-rotation tab prevents the bracket from rotating.

17. An mounting bracket capable of retaining a fastener that may be used to mount an airbag or a tether to a vehicle, the mounting bracket comprising:

a front face;

a rear face positioned behind the front face;

5 a first opening located on the front face and a second opening located on the rear face, the first opening and the second opening constructed such that a fastener may pass through the bracket via the first opening and the second opening; and

a retaining member comprising retaining tabs, the retaining tabs constructed such that when the fastener passes through the bracket, the fastener pushes apart the retaining tabs and
10 causes the bracket to retain the fastener.

18. The bracket as in claim 18 wherein the retaining member further comprises centering tabs.

15 19. The bracket as in claim 18 wherein the centering tabs guide the fastener to ensure that the fastener pushes apart the retaining tabs.

20. The bracket as in claim 18 wherein the centering tabs are angled.

20 21. The bracket as in claim 20 wherein the centering tabs form an angle with respect to the rear face that is from about 45° to about 70°.

22. The bracket as in claim 17 wherein the retaining tabs are angled.

23. The bracket as in claim 22 wherein the retaining tabs form an angle with respect to the rear face that is from about 3° to about 35°.

24. The bracket is a claim 17 wherein the bracket is constructed to mount an airbag to a vehicle.

25. The bracket as in claim 17 wherein the bracket is constructed to mount a tether to a vehicle.

26. The bracket as in claim 17 wherein the bracket is made of steel.

27. The bracket as in claim 17 wherein the bracket is made of pre-coated steel.

28. The bracket as in claim 17 further comprising an anti-rotation tab.

29. The bracket as in claim 28 wherein the anti-rotation tab is capable of being inserted into an aperture in a vehicle.

30. The bracket as in claim 28 wherein the anti-rotation tab is constructed such that if the bracket is mounted to a vehicle, the anti-rotation tab prevents the bracket from rotating.

31. The bracket as in claim 17 further comprising a closing tab.

5 32. The bracket as in claim 31 further comprising an aperture positioned adjacent to the closing tab.

33. The bracket as in claim 31 further comprising a slit on the on the rear face, the slit being constructed to receive the closing tab.

10 34. The bracket as in claim 17 further comprising an extending flange attached to the front face.

35. The bracket as in claim 17 further comprising a depression.

15 36. The bracket as in claim 17 wherein the bracket is constructed such that it is capable of enclosing a portion of an airbag between the front face and the rear face.

20 37. The bracket as in claim 17 wherein the bracket is constructed such that it is capable of enclosing a portion of a tether between the front face and the rear face.

38. A method for installing an airbag to a vehicle comprising:

obtaining a mounting bracket, the mounting bracket comprising a front face, a rear face positioned behind the front face, a first opening located on the front face and a second opening located on the rear face, the first opening and the second opening constructed such that a fastener may pass through the bracket via the first opening and the second opening, and a retaining member constructed such that when the fastener passes through the bracket, the fastener engages the retaining member and causes the bracket to retain the fastener;

securing the airbag to the bracket; and

mounting the bracket to the vehicle.

39. A method as in claim 38 wherein the mounting step comprises inserting the fastener into an aperture in the vehicle.

40. A method as in claim 38 wherein the securing step comprises enclosing a portion of the airbag within the bracket.

41. A method for installing a tether to a vehicle via comprising:
obtaining a mounting bracket, the mounting bracket comprising a front face, a rear face
positioned behind the front face, a first opening located on the front face and a second opening
located on the rear face, the first opening and the second opening constructed such that a
fastener may pass through the bracket via the first opening and the second opening, and a
retaining member constructed such that when the fastener passes through the bracket, the
fastener engages the retaining member and causes the bracket to retain the fastener;
securing the tether to the bracket; and
mounting the bracket to the vehicle.

42. A method as in claim 41 wherein the mounting step comprises inserting the
fastener into an aperture in the vehicle.

43. A method as in claim 41 wherein the securing step comprises enclosing a portion
of the tether within the bracket.